THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) In the Finance Bill 1994, the Finance Minister has proposed reduction in the rate of Expenditure Tax on the chargeable expenditure incurred in a hotel where the room charges per unit of residential accommodation is rupees 1200 or more per day, per individual from 20% at present to 10%. The proposed reduction will take effect from 1-6-94 and will apply in relation to assessment year 1994-95 and subsequent years.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposals for takings over of airports by NAA

3898. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the conditions/norms laid down for taking over of management of an Airport by the National Airports Authority ;

(b) whether the National Airports Authority has received any proposals from different State Governments for taking over of some more Airports ;

(c) if so, the names of Airports, particularly in Gujarat and Maharashtra, in respect of which such proposals have been considered/received during 1993-94 so far ; and

(d) what is the present position in regard to each of these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The main conditions/norms for taking over the management of an airport by the National Airports Authority (NAA) are ; the economic viability of operation and financial health of NAA.

(b) to (d) proposals were received from the Government of Gujarat for taking over of Surat airfield and from the Government of Maharashtra for taking over of Nanded aerodrome by NAA. Due to paucity of resources and the fact that these airports are economically unviable, it was decided that NAA would not be able to take over these airports.

भारत और दक्षिण अफ्रिका के बीच पर्यटन का विकास

3899. श्रीमती चन्द्रिका अभिनन्दन जैन : क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री 17 मार्च, 1994 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 3079 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पर्यटन स्थलों और विभिन्न शहरों में स्थित ऐतिहासिक स्थलों का दौरा करने हेतु दक्षिण अफ्रीका से प्रति वर्ष कितने पर्यटकों के हमारे देश में आने की संभावना है और प्रति वर्ष कितने भारतीय पर्यटकों के इस प्रयोजन हेतु दक्षिण अफ्रीका जाने की संभावना है ;

(ख) दोनों देशों के बीच पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जाएंगे/उठाए जाने का विचार है और क्या इस संबंध में दोनों देशों के बीच किसी समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद) : (क) वर्ष 1993 के दौरान भारत की यात्रा पर आए दक्षिण अफ्रीका के पर्यटकों की संख्या 9,914 थी । दक्षिण अफ्रीका जाने वाले भारतीय पर्यटकों के आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं है ।

(ख) और (ग) दोनों देशों के बीच पर्यटक यातायात को संवर्धन करने के लिए एअर इंडिया ने 2 अक्तूबर, 1993 से दक्षिण अफ्रीका के लिए अपनी उड़ान प्रारंभ कर दी है और एक औपचारिक वायु सेवा करार को अन्तिम रूप दिया जा रहा है ।

Under cutting of fares by air taxi services

3900. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the air taxi services have been engaging in acute under cutting of fares, to the detriment of IA ;

(b) if so, the details of the under cutting of fares effected by private airlines ; and

(c) Governments reaction to prevent such unfair practices ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) There is no restriction on fares to be charged by Air Taxi operators. Air taxi operators are free to fix fares in their best commercial judgement.

Recruitment to various posts under the Department of Civil Aviation

3901. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that various organisations under the Department of Civil Aviation are recruiting people from outside to various posts to fill up vacancies, in contravention of the Ministry's Order dated the 22nd November, 1993 ;